IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1-4, 8, 12-16, 21, 22, 24, 26-28, 30 and 32-35 and add new Claims 37 and 38 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image verification system comprising an image generation device and a first image verification device,

wherein said image generation device includes:

an image data generation ~~means for generating~~ unit adapted to generate image data; and

a first verification data generation ~~means for generating~~ unit adapted to generate first verification data ~~for said image data~~ using said image data and first information, and

wherein said first image verification device includes:

a first verification ~~means for verifying~~ unit adapted to verify, using said image data, said first verification data and said first information, whether said image data is altered or not ~~using said image data, said first verification data and said first information~~; and

a second verification data generation ~~means for, if it is verified that said image data is not altered, generating~~ unit adapted to generate second verification data ~~for said image data~~ using said image data and second information, if it is verified by said first verification unit that said image data is not altered.

2. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 1, wherein said first verification data generation ~~means~~ unit generates said first verification data using a hash function and a predetermined calculation.

3. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 1, wherein said second verification data generation ~~means~~ unit generates said second verification data using a hash function and public key cryptography.

4. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 1, wherein, if it is verified by said first verification unit that said image data is altered, said second verification data generation ~~means inhibits generation of~~ unit disables generation of said second verification data.

5. (Previously Presented) The image verification system according to claim 1, wherein said first image verification device includes a memory for storing a correspondence relationship between said first information and said second information.

6. (Original) The image verification system according to claim 1, wherein said first information is ID information for identifying said image generation device.

7. (Previously Presented) The image verification system according to claim 1, wherein said second information is a private key used for public key cryptography.

8. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 1, ~~wherein said image verification system~~ further ~~comprises~~ comprising a second image verification device,

wherein said second image verification device includes a second verification ~~means for verifying~~ unit adapted to verify, using said image data, said second verification data and third information corresponding to said second information, whether said image data is altered or not ~~using said image data, said second verification data and third information corresponding to said second information~~.

9. (Previously Presented) The image verification system according to claim 8, wherein said second information is a private key used for public key cryptography and said third information is a public key used for public key cryptography.

10. (Previously Presented) The image verification system according to claim 8, wherein said second image verification device is a server computer and said first image verification device is a client of the server computer.

11. (Original) The image verification system according to claim 1, wherein said image generation device is an electronic apparatus provided with an image pickup unit.

12. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 1, wherein said image generation device is one of a digital camera, a digital camcorder ~~or~~ and a scanner.

13. (Currently Amended) An image verification system comprising:

an image generation device;

a first image verification device; and

a ~~second~~ connection device adapted to connect said image generation device and said first image verification device,

wherein said image generation device includes:

an image data generation ~~means for generating~~ unit adapted to generate image data; and

a first verification data generation ~~means for generating~~ unit adapted to generate first verification data ~~for said image data~~ using said image data and first information,

~~wherein said first device includes:~~

~~transmission means for transmitting~~ wherein said connection device provides said image data and said first verification data to said ~~second~~ first image verification device, and

wherein said ~~second~~ first image verification device includes:

a first verification ~~means for verifying~~ unit adapted to verify, using said image data, said first verification data and said first information, whether said image data is

altered or not ~~using said image data, said first verification data and said first information~~; and

a second verification data generation ~~means for, if it is verified that said image data is not altered, generating~~ unit adapted to generate second verification data ~~for said image data~~ using said image data and second information, if it is verified by said first verification unit that said image data is not altered.

14. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 13, wherein said first verification data generation ~~means~~ unit generates said first verification data using a hash function and a predetermined calculation.

15. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 13, wherein said second verification data generation ~~means~~ unit generates said second verification data using a hash function and public key cryptography.

16. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 13, wherein, if it is verified by said first verification unit that said image data is altered, said second verification data generation ~~means inhibits generation of~~ unit disables generation of said second verification data.

17. (Previously Presented) The image verification system according to claim 13, wherein said second device includes a memory for storing a correspondence relationship between said first information and said second information.

18. (Original) The image verification system according to claim 13, wherein said first information is ID information for identifying said image generation device.

19. (Previously Presented) The image verification system according to claim 13, wherein said second information is a private key used for public key cryptography .

20. (Original) The image verification system according to claim 13, wherein said second device is an IC card or a storage medium with a microprocessor.

21. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 13, wherein said ~~second~~ first image verification device is a server computer and said ~~first image verification~~ connection device is a client of the server computer.

22. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 13, ~~wherein said image verification system~~ further ~~comprises an~~ comprising a second image verification device,

wherein said second image verification device includes a second verification ~~means for verifying~~ unit adapted to verify, using said image data, said second verification data and third information corresponding to said second information, whether said image data is altered or not ~~using said image data, said second verification data and third information corresponding to said second information~~.

23. (Previously Presented) The image verification system according to claim 22, wherein said second information is a private key used for public key cryptography and said third information is a public key used for public key cryptography.

24. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim 22, wherein said second image verification device is a server computer and said ~~first image verification~~ connection device is a client of the server computer.

25. (Original) The image verification system according to claim 13, wherein said image generation device is an electronic apparatus provided with an image pickup unit.

26. (Currently Amended) The image verification system according to claim ~~22~~ 13, wherein said image generation device is one of a digital camera, a digital camcorder ~~or~~ a scanner.

27. (Currently Amended) An image verification device comprising:

a verification ~~means for verifying~~ unit adapted to verify, using image data, first verification data and first information, whether said image data is altered or not, wherein said image data and said first verification data are generated in an image generation device and said first verification data is generated using said image data and said first information ~~using said image data, first verification data for said image data, and ID information for identifying an image generation device that has generated said image data~~; and

a ~~second~~ verification data generation ~~means for, if it is verified that said image data is not altered, generating~~ unit adapted to generate second verification data ~~for said image data~~ using said image data and second information, if it is verified by said verification unit that said image data is not altered.

28. (Currently Amended) The image verification device according to claim 27, wherein said ~~second~~ verification data generation ~~means~~ unit generates said second verification data using a hash function and public key cryptography.

29. (Previously Presented) The image verification device according to claim 27, wherein said second information is a private key used for public key cryptography.

30. (Currently Amended) The image verification device according to claim 27, wherein, if it is verified by said verification unit that said image data is altered, said ~~second~~ verification data generation ~~means inhibits generation of~~ unit disables generation of said second verification data.

31. (Previously Presented) The image verification device according to claim 27, wherein said image verification device includes a memory for storing a correspondence relationship between said first information and said second information.

32. (Currently Amended) An image verification method comprising:

a verification step of verifying, using image data, first verification data and first information, whether said image data is altered or not, wherein said image data and said first verification data are generated in an image generation device and said first verification data is generated using said image data and said first information ~~using said image data, first verification data for said image data, and ID information for identifying an image generation device that has generated said image data~~; and

a ~~second~~ verification data generation step of~~, if it is verified that said image data is not altered,~~ generating second verification data ~~for said image data~~ using said image data and second information, if it is verified by said verification step that said image data is not altered.

33. (Currently Amended) The image verification method according to claim 32, wherein, in said ~~second~~ verification data generation step, said second verification data is generated using a hash function and public key cryptography.

34. (Currently Amended) The image verification method according to claim 32, wherein said second information is a private key ~~of a~~ used for public key cryptography .

35. (Currently Amended) The image verification method according to claim 32, ~~wherein, if it is verified that said image data is altered, in said second verification data generation step, generation of~~ further comprising a step of disabling generation of said

second verification data, if it is verified by said verification step that said image data is altered ~~is inhibited~~.

36. (Original) A storage medium storing a program for implementing the image verification method according to any one of claims 32 to 35.

37. (New) The image verification device according to claim 27, wherein said first information is ID information for identifying said image generation device.

38. (New) The image verification method according to claim 32, wherein said first information is ID information for identifying said image generation device.